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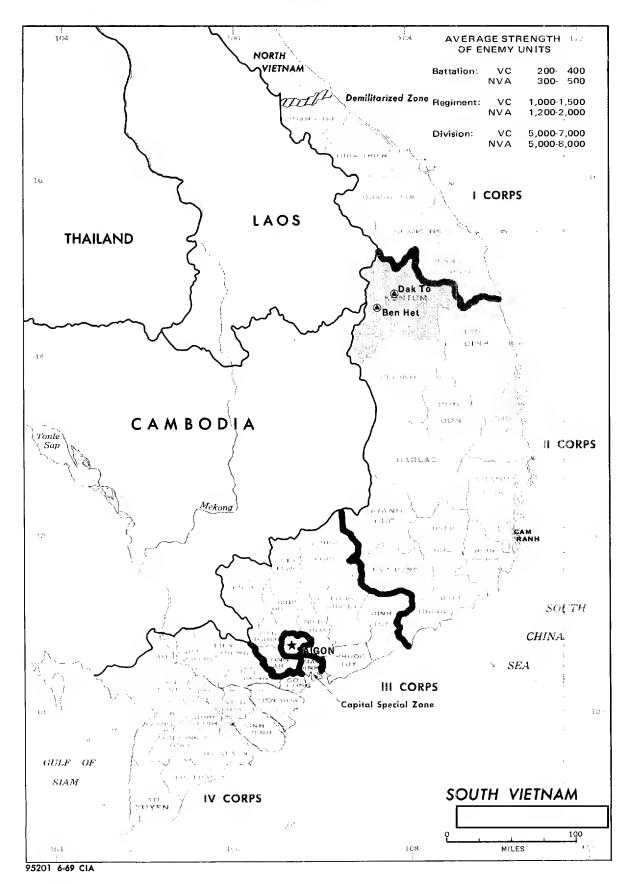
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South Vietnam: The level of enemy-initiated military activity tapered off yesterday after heavy fighting over the weekend and a flurry of rocket and mortar attacks on allied targets during the night of 1-2 June.

The heaviest combat recently has been concentrated in the central highlands. South Vietnamese infantrymen, supported by US artillery and air strikes, have borne the brunt of the fighting in western Kontum Province. More than 1,300 Communist troops have been killed since early May as a result of these battles, fought in the Dak To-Ben Het area.

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The push to unify South Vietnam's nationalist political groups has not yet reached the politically divided I Corps area. To date, local party leaders have paid only lip service to the urgency of consolidating I Corps' rival political groups; the leaders themselves are eyeing each other cautiously as they await instructions from Saigon.

Although the leaders of the Revolutionary Dai Viet, Nhan Xa, and the major faction of the Vietnamese Nationalist parties agreed in Saigon to join President Thieu's National Social Democratic Front, their subordinates in I Corps have not yet received any guidance on their role in the new progovernment organization. Long-standing personal differences between rival political leaders in the northern provinces continue to be a problem, particularly as the Revolutionary Dai Viet and Nhan Xa parties seek to purge each other's adherents from key positions in the provincial governments.

(Map)

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Bolivia: President Siles' position remains precarious.

Siles shortened Governor Rockefeller's visit to a three-hour airport stop on 31 May because he feared that demonstrations would get out of hand and the military would then have an excuse to remove him from office. Demonstrations and some violence did occur, but incidents were less serious than the government had anticipated.

Siles and armed forces commander in chief Ovando reportedly have reached an agreement on the conduct of government over the next <u>ll months until</u>
national elections are held in May.

Ovando is now in a position to claim that Siles was not sufficiently in control of the country to assure the safety of an important foreign visitor, although the armed forces could in fact have guaranteed security in La Paz had Rockefeller's visit proceeded as originally planned.

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Morocco: King Hassan has called for an Islamic congress, presumably in a bid to improve his image at home and abroad.

Following formal ceremonies on 29 May to celebrate the birth of the Prophet Mohammed, the King called for an Islamic conference "at a very high level" to deal with religious and political issues facing the Muslim world. The Tunisian and Egyptian ambassadors commented favorably on the proposal, which may have been discussed when Nasir's personal representative visited Rabat last month.

US officials in Rabat point out that the King is clearly calling for an Islamic summit but does not want to engage his own prestige at this point. A resolution calling for such a summit, passed by the recent Islamic conference at Kuala Lumpur, may well have paved the way for a positive reaction to Hassan's proposal. Once agreement is reached for such a conference, Hassan can be expected to offer to host it in Rabat.

The motives underlying the King's initiative

involve not only his continuing effort to build up his image as both an Arab and an Islamic leader, but also his increasing need to respond positively to pressures generated by the Arab-Israeli conflict

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Middle East: The sabotage of the US-owned pipeline on the Golan Heights has become a diplomatic problem now that the Israelis have closed the emergency valves and prevented most of the oil spill from contaminating the Jordan River. The Tapline company, which is seeking the approval of the four Arab states involved, hopes that by sending an authorized representative it can satisfy an Israeli demand that company officials meet directly with Israeli authorities to discuss repair and reopening of the line. Other Israeli conditions have not yet been revealed, but are likely to be stiff.

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Argentina: Army troops have

Argentina: Army troops have been withdrawn from the center of Cordoba to strategic points in the suburbs as the city slowly returns to normal. Military courts are handing out prison terms to persons—including some labor officials—convicted of "public incitement and collusion in rebellion." The automobile workers in Cordoba held a peaceful 24—hour strike yesterday to protest the jailing of their union head, who was sentenced to prison by a military court. Some labor leaders in other parts of the country reportedly have gone into hiding because they expect the government to crack down on the unions for their part in the illegal general strike on 30 May.

* * * *

Venezuela: The critical wounding of a student during an attack on a Rockefeller-owned business in the provincial town of Valencia could set off a new nationwide wave of demonstrations. Prior to the sudden decision of the Caldera government to request cancellation of the visit of the Rockefeller mission, there was evidence that extremists were planning to foment troubles throughout Venezuela. Now that the pretext of Rockefeller's visit has been removed, left-wing extremists may seize upon this incident.

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Singapore: Singapore officials have reacted swiftly to dampen communal violence which flared over the weekend leaving two dead and about 20 injured. Prime Minister Lee has visited the troubled areas and instructed the police to deal firmly and impartially regardless of race with all elements responsible for the trouble; several Chinese have already been sentenced for assault. Criminal elements in this predominantly Chinese city-state appear to have been at least partially responsible for sparking the disturbances. As an added precaution, the Singapore Government is reported to have restricted access to the island in order to prevent a possible influx of troublemakers from Malaysia.

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